(e) Yes, a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been included towards beach nourishment etc. in the Seventh-Five-Year Plan.

Metro Railway, Calcutta

1471. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) by when the construction of Metro Railway in Calcutta is likely to be completed;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of intermediate stations in the Southern section of Metro Railway opened to public use have not been completed; and

(c) if so, by when the construction work on these stations in this section is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Construction of Metro Railway in Calcutta is likely to be completed by December, 1990 subject to availability of funds and also immediate availability of land.

(b) In the Southern section construction work on all stations was completed before opening of the section for public use except on Jatin Das Park and Rabindra Sarobar stations where finishing wroks are in progress.

(c) Work on these two stations is expected to be completed by October, 1986.

Short supply of anti-leprosy drugs

1472. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of leprosy are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, what are the programmes to combat the disease; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that anti-leprosy drugs are in short supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) There is no evidence to show that cases of leprosy are increasing in the country.

(b) Measures taken/proposed to be taken to check leprosy are as under:—

(1) Leprosy has been included in 20 Point Programme of the Government of India and is being implemented as 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

(2) By the end of 7th Plan, it is proposed to provide infrastructure in all 201 endemic districts with prevalance rate of 5 per thousand population;

(3) In 76 highly endemic districts with prevalance rate of 10 and above per thousand population, Multi-drug Treatment would be introduced within 7th Plan period, Multi-drug Treatment is also proposed to be given to all dapsone refractory cases in other districts;

(4) Health education measures will be intensified to remove ignorance about the disease causation;

(5) Voluntary organisations are actively involved in the implementation of the programme both by setting up Survey, Education and treatment (SET) centres, training and rehabilitation of deformed leprosy patients.

(c) Availability of anti-leprosy drugs is adequate.